MEMOIR

OF

GEORGE LIVERMORE.

PREPARED AGREEABLY TO A RESOLUTION

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

By CHARLES DEANE.

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GEORGE LIVERMORE.

George Livermore, the son of Deacon Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Gleason) Livermore, was born in that part of Cambridge called Cambridgeport, in Massachusetts, on the 10th of July, 1809. He was a descendant of John Livermore, who came from Ipswich in England, in 1634, and settled in Watertown in this State.

Mr. Livermore attended the public and private schools at Cambridgeport until he was fourteen years of age, pursuing, in addition to the common English course, some of the preparatory studies for admission to college. In a brief autobiographical sketch written during his last sickness, he says: "Among my school-mates at the private school was Oliver Wendell Holmes, now so widely known as the charming poet and prose-writer. The humorous scene described in 'The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table,' concerning 'the Leghorn Hat,' the 'Port Chuck,' and 'the Race,' is as vivid to my memory as if it took place yesterday."*

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* In some remarks by our associate, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes, at a meeting of the Society after Mr. Livermore's death, he speaks of this private school, and refers to some of those who attended it while he was there. Richard H. Dana, Jr., and Margaret Fuller were of the number. "The boys," he says, "were rather a fighting set; and our champion, a nephew of the most celebrated of American painters, had

BURTON HIST. COLLECTION
DETROIT
EXCHANGE DUPLICATE

His constitution being feeble, and his health not good, it was thought best that he should abandon the idea of a college education, and follow some more active calling. Accordingly, at the age of fourteen he left school, and went into the "store" of his older brothers, Isaac and Marshall Livermore, merchants, at Cambridgeport. After this period the only school advantages he enjoyed were a course of exercises in English and Latin during two terms at the Deerfield Academy, in 1827–28.

From the time of entering the store, his leisure hours were always spent in reading and study; and all the money he could earn was saved for the purchase of books. He thus refers to this period of his life.

"A great many valuable and standard works were published in a cheap form, and thus came within the reach of persons of small means. I was sometimes allowed an evening to go to Boston and attend the book auctions; and I felt proud and happy when I came home with two or three volumes, costing from twenty-five to thirty cents each. At these book auctions there was sold, almost every time I was present, a thick octavo edition of Shakespeare, with rather coarse wood-cuts. The price generally obtained was not far from three dollars. I had read the 'Merchant of Venice,' from a borrowed volume of Shakespeare, and I thought that an author who could write like that was worth owning entire. I saved my money, therefore, till I had three dollars, and went to Boston, hoping that a copy of my coveted author might be put up, and sold within my means. I was not disappointed. After waiting an hour, the auctioneer put up a copy of Shakespeare. The bidding began at two dollars and fifty cents, and advanced five cents till it reached two dollars and ninety cents, when it was knocked down, and the name of the purchaser was called for. I had bid two dollars and ninety cents, but another bidder gave his name. I claimed the book, as I had fairly

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at least two regular pitched battles with outside fellows, who challenged the pretensions of the gentlemen of the 'Academy.' George Livermore came among this rather rough crowd, the mildest and quietest of boys, — slight, almost feminine in aspect, quite alien to all such doings. I do not remember him as conspicuous in any active play, still less as ever quarrelling with anybody. He was a lamb-like creature, who made us all feel kindly to him, — this I can remember, and his looks, so delicate and gentle."

made the bid; and I called out to the auctioneer that I had bid $2.90 *too*. 'Ah,' said he, 'if you bid $2.92, the book is yours, as you are the highest bidder.' I had no disposition to quibble about his pun, but gladly paid two dollars and ninety-two cents, and hurried home with my big book under my arm, a prouder and happier boy than I had ever been before. This was the Shakespeare which I first read. I marked the favorite passages which most impressed me, and noted the pages on which they occurred, on the fly-leaf at the end of the volume. I kept the volume for many years, when, wishing to own an English edition with notes, and not feeling able to keep both, I had the folly to exchange it. Many a time have I regretted this. I would, if I could, have bought it back, and given for it its weight in gold."

When quite a young man, he became much interested in the character and history of the merchant-scholar, William Roscoe, the first account of whom he read in Irving's "Sketch-Book."

"I was much pleased," he says, "to find that a man in active business, without a college education, had accomplished so much in literature, science, and statesmanship. Roscoe seemed to me to be a model which one might well strive to imitate, at however humble a distance. My respect for the abilities, attainments, and character of this remarkable man increased with my knowledge of the works he published. His life, written by his son, has always been a favorite biography with me; and I have bought a large number of copies to present to young friends. When I visited England in 1845, I sought out the principal places connected with his name, and had the good fortune to become personally acquainted with many of his friends and descendants."

In 1829 Mr. Livermore went to Waltham as a salesman in a "dry-goods store," where he remained a year, "when, a *smarter* young man offering his services," he returned to Cambridge. A change having taken place in his brothers' business, he entered the shop of his father, who was a soap-manufacturer, and went to work making "fancy soap and wash-balls." All his earnings, except what he needed for his clothes, he passed over to his father, who was in straitened circumstances. His father had given him a silver watch which cost ten dollars.

"On the day I was twenty-one years old," he writes, "wishing in some way to signalize my majority, I asked my father for a dollar, and took a trip in the steamboat to Nahant. The fare was thirty-seven and a half cents each way, leaving me but twenty-five cents for other expenses. I could not, of course, get a dinner at any public house with this sum; but I managed to find a grocery store, where I got ninepence worth of gingerbread and crackers, and a glass of lemonade for six cents, which I regarded as a good dinner, and came home with six cents in my pocket. This was my start in life."

Two months later, the person in whose shop at Waltham he had served as salesman, called upon him, and urged him to return into his employ, saying that the young man who had succeeded him did not please the customers as well as he had done, and offering him increased pay. The invitation was accepted, and Waltham once more became his place of residence. The following spring, his employer, Mr. Smith, proposed to him to take the business and conduct it on his own account for two years, offering fair terms.

"I hesitated at first," says Mr. Livermore, "about assuming such a responsibility; but my friends advised me not to let so favorable an opportunity slip, and on the first of April, 1831, I put up my sign, and commenced business on my own account. My brother Isaac lent me one thousand dollars as capital to pay Mr. Smith in part for his goods. At the end of the two years I returned the one thousand dollars, with interest, and had earned nearly twice as much more for my own capital with which to begin business elsewhere. I was sorry to give up so good a business, but Mr Smith needed and had a right to the store; and I retired from the scene of my first business experience and success as gracefully as I could.

"The agent of the Waltham factories, learning that I was to resign to Mr. Smith the business I had received from him, suggested that I should take the 'factory store,' which was better located than his, and thus retain my own customers. This would have injured Mr. Smith seriously. I did not think it would be honorable in me to encroach upon his privileges, and I promptly declined the offer."

Mr. Livermore's religious nature was warm and earnest, and had been early developed under the most favorable circumstances beneath the paternal roof. Although suffering

much from poor health, his religious views were cheerful. During his residence in Waltham, he boarded with a lady of eminent piety, who had a high regard for him.

"Her religion," he writes, "was after the pattern of the strictest Calvinism. As she loved me, she wished to save my soul; and no arguments which she and her minister and friends could bring were kept back. I had, however, thought and read a good deal on the subject of religion, and had examined the evidences for and against the particular form of faith which is called 'Orthodoxy.' The result of my investigations was to convince me that the grounds of true religion are very simple; viz., to love the Lord our God with all our heart, and our neighbor as ourself. My sister Eliza (now the wife of the Rev. Mr. Stebbins) did more than any one else to encourage my religious inquiries and to fix my religious principles. The year in which I attained my majority, I, with her, made an open profession of my faith, and united with the church where my parents worshipped, where my father was deacon, and where I had been a Sunday-school scholar since I was five years old. I have always regarded this act of consecration with satisfaction; 'not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect,' but as a means of fixing my mind and directing my thoughts to the higher and spiritual wants of my nature. My dear mother had taught me a large number of hymns, which I shall never forget, and some of which I repeat every day and night."

In the interval between relinquishing his business at Waltham and entering into new engagements, as he had rarely been away from home, and never beyond the limits of this State, he made a visit to Maine, which was followed by a journey to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington. On his return, he went to West Point and Saratoga. Of his visit to Maine he says, —

"In the spring of 1833, soon after I left Waltham, I went, by sailing packet, to Bangor. I had never been out of the State before. The voyage was rather rough and I was sea-sick; but it was a new experience to me, and I enjoyed the novelty. I went to Old Town, where there was, on the island of Orono, an Indian settlement. These Indians are Roman Catholics. They have a church and a Catholic priest on the island. The church is a rude structure, and I desired to see the inte-

rior. The priest told me I could do this by calling on the deacon, who had the keys, and giving him a small compensation for his trouble. He pointed out the wigwam where the deacon lived, and I went there and made known my wishes to a fat squaw, who stood at the entrance. 'You want to see church,' said she. 'How much you give?' Wishing to be liberal, I said, 'Half-dollar,' being twice the sum the priest had named as the customary fee. She grumbled out, 'Deacon not at home.' Supposing that I should have to go again to accomplish my purpose, I started to return, when the squaw called out, 'You give a dollar, and the deacon is at home.' I readily produced my dollar, and my tawny guide came out with the keys and showed me the church."

During his visit to Washington, he called upon President Jackson, and "was surprised to find that hard and tyrannical ruler so gentle and affable in private conversation." He also spent a day at Mount Vernon, with the greatest interest and satisfaction.

Some attempts about this time to form a mercantile connection failed, but in 1834 he established himself in Boston, in the shoe and leather business. This led him at times to visit other cities, and to be absent from home for weeks and months together. But however pressing his engagements, his thoughts always reverted fondly to the paternal hearth, and to his Sunday school, which through life claimed his warmest interest and affection.

In a letter to a younger brother from New York, dated 22d September, 1834, occurs this passage: —

"Young never uttered a truer sentiment than this: 'We take no note of time but from its loss.' You are just at the age when time is of immense value. Improve every moment; but do not consider time lost, if spent in profitable conversation, — or even sometimes in silence. There are other ways of improving the mind than reading books; read men, read the volume of Nature; read everything you see; but when you take a printed volume, bestow on it your whole attention, and read it through before you commence anything else. You are just arriving at an age when you will feel the worth of information on almost any subject. In a few weeks you will be called to act for yourself in life. I believe you have long since determined to act in all things from

principle, not from caprice, or the impulse of the moment. Let purity of purpose be your pole-star through life, and you will not live in vain. The time will come when all will find their proper place in the world. . . . We have, as a family, cause to be grateful that our escutcheon is not marred by one dishonorable blot. Let us strive to increase its lustre. . . .

"Be a valuable member of society, no matter how humble may be your occupation for a few years. Remember Roger Sherman was called from the cobbler's bench to assist in drafting the Declaration of Independence."

In the winter of 1834–5 he went to the South and West, spending some weeks in New Orleans. In a little memorandum-book kept by him at this time, we find that on the 15th of February he "heard Rev. Mr. Clapp preach in the morning," and in the "afternoon attended the meeting of the slaves at the Methodist Church." A few evenings after he "attended a meeting of colored persons about to emigrate to Liberia. Gloster Simpson, formerly a slave, and recently from Liberia, spoke in favor of the colony. All who were about to emigrate formed themselves into a Temperance Society." For further information respecting this colonization scheme, he calls the next day on this Gloster Simpson from Liberia.

He returned home from New Orleans by way of the Mississippi and the Ohio Rivers, and arriving at Louisville spent the Sunday there, March 15th. He "attended the Sunday school of the Rev. Mr. Clarke's Society" (James Freeman Clarke, D. D., now of Boston). "The whole number of scholars," he says, "is at present about fifty. Mr. Clarke preached in the morning on the education of children."

Mr. Livermore's love of books increased with the increase of his means: indeed, it outran his means, which were yet small. His tastes craved for, and were formed upon, the best models: the authors with whom he communed were of the highest order, not only as regards purity and elevation of sentiment, but elegance of style. His pure mind rejected everything coarse or irreverent. He had a great horror of

the very presence of books of a demoralizing tendency, — a feeling which led him to discard from his collection a copy of Byron, as he did not wish so impure a book in his library.

His poetic faculty was large, and showed itself not only in a love for the best poets, but in the composition of some exquisite verses. Within a few years of the period of which we are now speaking, he wrote two dedication-hymns, a number of hymns addressed to Sunday-school children, some verses suggested by the Scripture passage, "And Jesus called a little child unto him," &c. Other pieces were entitled, "The Negro Missionary," "The Blind Harper and his Boy in Rogers's Italy," and some verses "To my Sister on her Wedding-Day." These subjects of his Muse are here enumerated for the purpose of showing how largely religious ideas and sentiments possessed his mind at this time. Many of these verses are excellent as poetry, and probably have never been published, unless upon the cards of his Sunday scholars. To a valued friend in the Divinity School, who had already dedicated himself to the cause of Sunday schools and philanthropic labors among the poor, he presented a copy of the "Sunday-School Guide," written by his pastor, the Rev. A. B. Muzzey, on a blank leaf of which was inscribed this sonnet: —

"TO R. C. W.*

"Self-consecrated to the cause of truth,
Wedded to charity by tenderest ties,
Thou art a *Guide* to many a wandering youth,
Directing upward their inquiring eyes.
Happy the chosen path thy feet pursue!
The work our Lord began, 'tis thine to do.
To bless the little ones, — preach to the poor,
Lead the lone pilgrim to the heavenly door,
And bid him enter freely, — heal the blind
By pouring light celestial on the mind, —
Comfort the mourning, — bind the broken heart,
And give the balm religious joys impart:
These are the duties that your path attend;
God bless your efforts evermore, my friend! G. L.

"DECEMBER 10th, 1837."

* Waterston.

In the year 1838, Mr. Livermore and an older brother, Isaac Livermore, formed a copartnership in business as wool-merchants, — an arrangement which was favorable to the cultivation of his literary tastes, as the larger share of the responsibilities of the business would be assumed by the senior partner, who would regard with an indulgent eye the favorite pursuits of the junior.

About this time Mr. Livermore began to keep a diary, which he continued to the year of his death. The volume for 1838 opens with a dedication to his favorite sister; and at the head of the first page is copied the following stanza: —

> "Thus far the Lord hath led me on,
> Thus far I make his mercy known;
> And while I walk this desert land,
> New blessings shall new praise command."

This daily record shows the development of his tastes and the subjects which took the strongest hold upon him, whether of a moral, religious, or political nature. We see what books he read, and what were his opinions of different authors. He had one of the most active of minds, and the most sensitive of natures. His interest in the parish, in the Sunday school, in the Lyceum, in the political meetings of his ward, &c., never flagged. He was a constant attendant at church, and for years always recorded the text from which the clergyman preached, and often gave an account of the discourse. The sessions of the Sunday school and the teachers' meetings were also duly noticed in his diary. Through life he had a great reverence for sacred things — for the Scriptures and the ordinances of religion. He had a horror of metaphysics, and all those philosophies which tended, as he thought, to scepticism. His mind was more poetic and æsthetic than logical, and he was much disturbed by the discussions on "Transcendentalism," when they first appeared here. He attended a course of lectures by Mr. Emerson, whose doctrines, so far as he understood them, much disquieted him. But, with the

utmost simplicity, he says, that on leaving the lecture-room he is unable to recall any definite and well-connected ideas in the lectures of the Concord philosopher.

He is found this year deeply engaged in reading his favorite author, Roscoe. Gray, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Miss Edgeworth, and Dickens also had charms for him; and the gentle Charles Lamb he loved as an elder brother.

His love of Nature, and particularly of flowers, was a striking trait in him. Under the date of Dec. 8, 1838, he says he received a fine bunch of larch from his sister, in Leominster, for which he felt very grateful. "There is nothing which gives me more pleasure than these little tokens of affection. I had rather see an old broken brown pitcher, filled with natural flowers or foliage, than the most curiously wrought alabaster vase, with only artificial flowers. My love for flowers and plants has become almost a passion, — I believe an innocent one." This love continued through life: in the season of flowers, he was rarely seen on his way to the city without a bunch of them in his hand; and he frequently distributed them among the poor city children that he met, to whom they were luxuries indeed: he would, if he could, have strewn flowers in the pathway of every living creature. These flowers were cultivated on his own grounds, and many of them were of rare varieties, and of exquisite beauty. Their fragrance fitly symbolized the aroma of his beautiful life.

We find him now attending Channing's lecture on Self-Culture, and paying the expenses of a young man in college. He is interested in Mr. Gurley and the Colonization Society, and feels that the Abolitionists are misrepresenting its purposes. With Elliott Cresson, the advocate of Colonization, he is holding a correspondence.

In a memorandum of expenses this year, one half the amount is put down to necessary expenses, "board and clothing," about one quarter to the account of "books," and the

remainder to "charity and presents." The library he had collected at this time was comparatively small. In an entry made September 6th, he says he had to work hard that day, and felt annoyed by it, as he had five or six new books he was very desirous of reading. "I moved my books into a new secretary, or bookcase, and find they make quite a show. It seems I have about two hundred volumes of good books; once this would have seemed quite a library; now I only begin to see how many books I want. On one thing I am determined, — that is, to buy no more trash; what works I do have shall be of good editions. I love literature too well and prize books too highly to have a good author in a mean dress."

One day an old gentleman reproved him for being always found with a book in his hand; telling him it was "a bad sign for a merchant to read in his counting-room"; and he was "abashed" by it.

Mr. Livermore's reading, up to this time, seems to have been somewhat miscellaneous; that is to say, he appears to have made no subject a specialty. His range of authors had been wide, and, as we have already observed, of the best selection. He thus laid such a foundation in a general knowledge of English literature, as well fitted him for those more special studies which we shall soon see him entering upon, and which he pursued with such ardor through life. He was always interested in the study of the Scriptures, and in the great themes which they suggest; and his duties as a Sunday-school teacher naturally offered a constant inducement to the pursuit of these studies. But now we find him (21st November, 1838) buying a copy of Coverdale's Bible. It was probably a reprint by Bagster, issued this year.

On the 1st of October, 1839, Mr. Livermore was married to Miss Elizabeth Cunningham Odiorne, of Cambridgeport, — a connection which opened a new field for the exercise of his warm and generous nature. In him the domestic virtues had

a rare growth, and no one could be more fortunate in the circumstances which through life tended to hallow the marriage relation.

He is developing a taste, at this time, for our local history, and appears to have kept a Record-Book of matters connected with the annals of his native town. We find him, in the early part of 1841, owning twenty-six volumes of the Historical Society's Collections, almost an entire set, — and Winthrop's History of New England, and all the Family and Classical Libraries. "Every day I go to Burnham's and Drake's and other bookstores, to see something new; I must form a resolution to keep away," as he has yet a number of books unread, — but he fears he will be unable to abide by it for any length of time.

The "Life of Josiah Quincy, Jr.," the ante-Revolutionary patriot, he reads with great interest. "It is an account of one who lived long, though he died young."

Mr. Livermore always felt a deep interest in whatever was going on around him. On the 29th of January, 1842, he was present in the saloon of the Tremont Theatre, on the occasion of the presentation of a piece of plate to Captain Hewitt, by the passengers of the steamship "Britannia," as a testimonial of his skill in the management of his ship during a violent storm. He there saw Charles Dickens, one of the passengers in that ship, who made the presentation speech, and whose appearance disappointed him. "My idea," he says, "of the author of Oliver Twist and dear little Nell was quite too spiritual to be realized in any human form."

In his business experience, now and through life, there were, at times, days and months of doubt and anxiety, when it seemed difficult to see through the dark clouds which overspread the financial prospect. He had a high sense of mercantile honor; but he was never ambitious of being a rich man. Amidst all his anxieties, his books, next to his family, were his never-failing solace.

He was gradually adding to his store of Biblical works, as opportunities and means favored their acquisition. On the 3d of March, 1842, he saw on sale, at Little and Brown's, a copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, the price of which was twenty-five dollars. He could not think of buying it, but his brother bought it and generously presented it to him. Copies of the same book have since been sold for more than a thousand dollars. On the 30th of June he visits the library of Harvard College, and finds Mr. Sibley very attentive and obliging showing him many old volumes which make his "eyes open very wide." The next month he visits, probably for the first time, the rooms of the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, and receives polite attention from Mr. Haven, the librarian of that institution, — subsequently one of Mr. Livermore's most intimate friends.

In the early part of 1843, the library of the Rev. Thaddeus M. Harris, D.D., was sold at auction, in Boston, and Mr. Livermore was tempted to buy some of the "antiques" in that collection. Among the books sold, he speaks of a copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, which brought thirty-nine dollars.

In February of this year he evinces his growing interest in those studies which through life were a specialty with him by writing an article on this Indian Bible for the "Christian World," a religious newspaper, edited by George G. Channing. He afterwards suggests to the editor the devotion of a certain part of his paper to Sunday schools, and agrees to furnish something to that department for a month.

He is reading with intense delight the Reminiscences of Thomas Frognall Dibdin. "I love him," he says. He is also reading that author's "Ædes Althorpianæ."

He now engages to assist a young man to pursue his studies for the ministry: a case where the principal charge would be borne by him.

Strange to say, for the first time, he this year (March 10) visited the library of the Boston Athenæum. Probably he then

little thought that in a few years he would be chosen one of the Trustees of that institution, the Chairman of its Library Committee, and then its Vice-President, and regarded as one of its most efficient and influential managers.

On the 29th of March we find him attending the meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society at the First Church in Chauncy Place, where he hears the second Centennial Discourse of John Quincy Adams, on the Formation of the New-England Confederacy of 1643.

About this time was started a curious Biblical question, which Mr. Livermore and the late President of the Historical Society, the Hon. James Savage, were much interested in solving. In September of this year, the Rev. Rufus P. Stebbins delivered a Centennial Discourse before the First Congregational Society at Leominster, in the course of which he had occasion to mention the Rogers family residing in that town, who claimed to be descended from the first Marian martyr. He referred, also, to an old copy of the Bible in the possession of a member of the family in Lunenburg, which, according to tradition, once belonged to the Martyr himself: indeed, it was said to have been the identical copy which he carried to the stake; and it now bears upon its leaves the marks of fire. The titlepage having disappeared from the volume, its date could not readily be ascertained. But what was supposed to be the monogram of the old printer, Cawood, was found upon the book; and it was stated on respectable authority that Cawood printed but one edition of the Bible, namely, in 1549, six years before the Martyr's death. All this was therefore consistent with the tradition that the book had belonged to Rogers, and was now in the possession of a descendant.

Previously to publishing his discourse, Mr. Stebbins applied to Mr. Livermore for information on this subject. Mr. Livermore showed from unquestionable authority, that Cawood printed a number of editions of the Bible after 1555,

the year of the Martyr's death; and therefore, in the absence of more definite information, which he could not then furnish, as to the precise edition of the Lunenburg Bible, it must remain doubtful whether the Martyr *could* have owned that copy. Yet as Cawood was said to have printed one edition before Rogers's death, he felt that the probabilities favored the family tradition.

The investigation of the subject, however, did not end here. Mr. Savage's interest in the matter centred principally on the genealogical question as to the descent of the Rogerses in this country (those who came from Nathaniel, of Ipswich, Mass.) from the Marian Martyr. He had no faith in the tradition, and was curious to know whether the Lunenburg Bible furnished any link in the chain of evidence. A fragment of that Bible was therefore procured by Mr. Livermore, and sent to his correspondent, Mr. Henry Stevens, in London, who, with Mr. George Offer, the editor of Bagster's reprint of Tyndale's New Testament, diligently compared it with copies of Cawood's editions of known date, when it was clearly ascertained that the Lunenburg copy was of the edition of 1561, six years after the Martyr's death. A sheet of the Bible of that date was subsequently sent by Mr. Offer to this country, and a careful collation being instituted with the Lunenburg copy, the conclusions arrived at in London were abundantly confirmed. Later investigations into the genealogical question, both in this country and in England, have shown the improbability of the tradition that John Rogers, of Dedham, England, (the father of Nathaniel, of Ipswich, Mass.), was a grandson of the Marian Martyr.

In November of this year, the Biblical library of the Rev. Dr. Homer, of Newton, was placed on sale at Messrs. Little and Brown's; and Mr. Livermore bought from it a number of copies of rare editions of the Bible. Among them was a copy of the Genevan version, presented by Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin to Dr. Homer, and supposed by its former owners to have

been the identical copy presented by the printer to Queen Elizabeth, — also the Bible which formerly belonged to Adam Winthrop, the father of the first Governor Winthrop. This gave further impetus to his studies in this direction. The library of the Duke of Sussex was sold the next year. This collection was rich in rare copies of the Bible, some of which were purchased by Mr. Livermore. Further rarities were subsequently added to his collection from the library of the late Dr. Hawtrey, Provost of Eton, — among which may be noticed an Evangelistarium, for the use of the Church, written on parchment, and supposed to be of a date as early as the eighth century. From these sources he laid the foundation of that large collection of Biblical works which his library now contains. But his time was not wholly spent, as it often is with book collectors, in amassing books: he was a careful student of them.*

In December of this year, Mr. Livermore visited the Rev. Thomas Robbins, D. D., then living at Mattapoiset, in Rochester, Mass., to inspect his valuable collection of old Bibles. Dr. Robbins afterwards removed to Connecticut, and became Secretary of the Historical Society of that State, leaving to it his library.

He now makes the acquaintance of some who were afterwards his associates in this Society, including Mr. Longfellow, Mr. Hillard, and Mr. Norton. Mr. Hillard recalls his early friendship for Mr. Livermore in some touching remarks made before this Society at the meeting following his death, which were printed in the volume of "Proceedings." Mr. Waterston was an earlier friend; Mr. Livermore showing much interest in his library, and adding to it, from time to time, some curious volume. With Mr. Ticknor he formed an early acquaintance. In the third edition of his "History of Spanish Litera-

* It should be stated that Mr. Livermore could read neither Hebrew nor Greek, though his Biblical collection contained some books in these languages. In early life he acquired some knowledge of Latin, which was of service to him in later years.

ture," Mr. Ticknor acknowledges his indebtedness for the correction of an error of Navarrete — in referring to the *eighteenth* Psalm, as containing the prophecy appropriated by Columbus to himself, instead of the *nineteenth*, as stated in the Giustiniani Polyglott Psalter of 1516 — to his friend, "George Livermore, of Cambridge, who has in his precious library," says Mr. Ticknor, a "copy of the Giustiniani Polyglott, which, when he pointed out the error to me, I did not own." (vol. i. p. 188.)

Between our former associate, the late Rev. Alexander Young, and Mr. Livermore, there existed the warmest friendship. They had many literary affinities. Dr. Young was a ripe scholar, and had the tastes and sympathies of an antiquary. He had a true Dibdin eye for a good book, and the rare art of handling a volume properly, which few persons possess. He knew how to open a book without breaking its back, and to turn over its leaves so that its owner would not tremble while it was in his hand. There is a knack in all this, known only to the true lover of books, — to him who reverences not merely the author, or the author's thoughts, but the concrete object before him. You never would see him taking up a noble volume, clothed in Bedford's best Levant, and in his best style, and, balancing it on one hand, allow one of the covers to swing at an angle of ninety degrees, endangering the joint on which it hung; nor find him leaning on an open page, crumpling the virgin leaves, and making "dog's ears" of the corners.

Dr. Young had a great love for such an author, for instance, as Coryat, the great foot-traveller, the "Odcombian Leggestretcher," as he styled himself, and would read with delight his "Crudities hastily gobled vp in Five Moneths Trauells in France, Sauoy, Italy," &c., &c. With what rare pleasure have we heard him read the passage in this quaint writer, where, in describing the wines of Venice, he says that the "Lagryme di Christo . . . is so toothsome and delectable to

the taste, that a certain stranger, being newly come to the citie, and tasting of this pleasant wine, was so affected therewith, that I heard he vttered this speech out of a passionate humour: *O Domine, Domine, cur non lachrymasti in regionibus nostris?*"

Izaac Walton, too, was an author after his own heart; and the bit of philosophy contained in his quaint praise of the strawberry Dr. Young always thought inimitable, and would cite the passage with *gout:* "Indeed, my good scholar, we may say of angling as Dr. Boteler said of strawberries, 'Doubtless God could have made a better berry, but doubtless God never did.'" But Dr. Young's great book was Boswell's Johnson, which he used to say a person should read through once a year. His "Library of Old English Prose Writers" reveals the "well of English undefiled" from which he drew; and his "Chronicles of the Pilgrims" and "Chronicles of Massachusetts" show his thorough knowledge of the early history of his native State.*

Another friend, afterwards a member of this Society, was Edward A. Crowninshield. He was a true gentleman, a man of elegant manners and of a refined and cultivated taste. He was an ardent lover of books, and had one of the rarest libraries of old English literature in this part of the country. He had the first edition of Chaucer, the first edition of Shakespeare's and of Milton's Poems, "The Schoolmaster," by Roger Ascham, Coryat's "Crudities" of the edition of 1611, &c. His library was also quite rich in early American history and biography. Seated in his elegant room, with all its luxurious appointments, surrounded by his "Strawberry Hills," his "Lee Priories," and his "Dibdins" (all of which told

* Dr. Young died on the 19th of March, 1854. His loss was deeply felt by his friends. In a note dated 11th April, Mr. Livermore writes: "Thanks for your kind note of yesterday, and for the perusal of that of Crowninshield. I do not wonder that he feels so deeply the loss of Dr. Young. For many years, 'we three' met daily at Little and Brown's. I cannot realize that I shall see his face no more on earth. I think every day he will call and see me."

you that their owner regarded the art of bookbinding as one of the fine arts), he would remind you of some of the pictures of Horace Walpole.*

Mr. Livermore and these two friends, for years, met almost daily, at noon, at the book-store of Messrs. Little and Brown, and there held sweet converse among the noble volumes which surrounded them. No one, it may here be observed, had a greater love of humor, or had more of fun and frolic in his nature, than Mr. Livermore himself; and when the proper time came for its display, it had free course. These meetings were choice occasions. Books, of course, were the chief theme; but the conversation took a wide range, and there were free discussions upon whatever topics of interest came up. As has been seen, few were more fond of anecdote, or could tell a better story, than Dr. Young. His wit and humor had the true flavor, like the *bouquet* of choice wine. At one time Cotton Mather was the subject of remark. Some one said that he was born out of time; that, unhappily, he lived at a transition period in the colony, when clergymen were losing the influence and authority which had so long been conceded to them; and this wounded his vanity. "An *influence and authority*," replied Dr. Young, in quiet irony, assuming an air of gravity and importance, "which the clergy at the present day are rapidly recovering."

The eccentricities of Mr. Dowse, of whom the members of the Society are constantly reminded by the speaking picture of him in the Dowse Library, would now and then be the subject of pleasant remark. "How many volumes have

* Mr. Crowninshield died on the 21st of February, 1859. Mr. Livermore thus writes on the same day: — "Poor Crowninshield is gone! He was as well as usual yesterday afternoon; but in the evening, whilst coughing, he was seized with a severe hemorrhage of the lungs, fainted, and passed away! We little thought, whilst speaking of him on Friday as one of the Standing Committee for next year, that before we met again he would be numbered with the dead. I loved him deeply, and I cannot but mourn his loss, though I feel that a merciful Providence has saved him from much suffering by thus suddenly and gently relieving him from his pains."

you in your collection?" was a question often put to him by impertinent curiosity. "Never counted them," was the quick and decisive reply.

Not infrequently two or three other friends would make their way into this charmed circle; and the cheery presence of Mr. James Brown, who loved good books not merely because he dealt in them, was always a benediction.

Sometimes the late John Overton Choules, D. D., whose rotund figure always recalled a well-remembered line of Thomson's, would appear amongst this company of bibliophilists. The Doctor was a great lover of books, and was thoroughly orthodox in his tastes. He used to say, that "old books and old wine" were fit companions. He edited some of the writings of others, but his labors in this field were not always regarded with favor by scholars. He never would acknowledge a suspicion of the authorship of the scathing criticism which appeared in the "Christian Examiner," for January, 1845, on his edition of Neal's "History of the Puritans," published by the Harpers the year before; and used, in apparent simplicity, to ask Mr. Livermore, "who he thought could have written it."

In March, 1845, we find Mr. Livermore making corrections for the new edition of Grahame's "History of the United States," published this year, under the supervision of President Quincy. He calls upon Mr. Quincy, who thanks him for the service rendered, and promises to acknowledge it in the Preface. This was the beginning of their acquaintance, and each continued to entertain the highest regard for the character of the other. Mr. Livermore had an almost romantic admiration for the heroic qualities of Mr. Quincy. Every summer or autumn, for ten or twelve of the last years of the life of the venerable patriot, Mr. Livermore, in company with the writer of this notice, paid a visit to the family mansion in Quincy, where a warm welcome always awaited him.

This year Mr. Livermore visited Europe, with his friend, Mr. James Brown, sailing on the 1st of April. He was furnished with letters from Mr. Sparks, Mr. Ticknor, and other well-known gentlemen. His journal, in the form of letters to his family, would make a most interesting volume, and is worthy of being printed entire. He did not follow the beaten track of the tourist. He made the acquaintance of many eminent men, and visited many famous libraries, inspecting, as time permitted, the curious books and manuscripts which they contained.

The first object he would seek, on his arrival at Liverpool, would be some memorial of Roscoe. Under date of the 13th of April he writes: —

"My first visit in the Old World was to the grave of Roscoe. From my childhood, when I read in the 'Sketch-Book' Irving's glowing account of Roscoe, I have felt a deep interest in everything relating to him. I have never read any works of biography or history with more pleasure and profit than his 'Lorenzo de Medici' and 'Leo X.' The beautiful style of the composition, the fine taste, correct views, and pure principles, which are so prominent in these volumes, quite fascinated me with the author; and since reading his Life by his son, ten or twelve years ago, I have had for his character the most profound respect and enthusiastic admiration. He was a ripe scholar, a pure patriot, and a liberal, humble, consistent Christian. Though engaged in the active duties and cares of business, he found time to cultivate a taste for literature, science, and the fine arts; and, in each department, the world has been benefited by his published works. His friends in Liverpool have shown in various ways their respect for his memory. Roscoe's grave is in a remote corner of the burying-ground connected with the Unitarian Chapel in Renshaw Street. I was disappointed not to find a monument here. There is nothing but a plain horizontal slab to mark the place of the family tomb. There is no inscription, but the names and ages of those who are buried beneath, with the date of their birth and death."

Of course he did not fail to see the full length statue of Roscoe by Chantrey, in the Royal Institution.

Through letters from his friend, Mr. Charles Sumner, Mr.

Livermore became acquainted with members and friends of the Roscoe family in Liverpool, and afterwards in London, from whom he received the most flattering attentions. A dinner-party was made for him at Liverpool, at which he saw many of the descendants of Roscoe, who had been invited especially to meet him. Mr. Robert Roscoe, residing in London, called on him, invited him to his house, and gave him several memorials of his father, including a letter relating to his edition of Pope, a volume of poetry translated from the Italian, and a beautiful crystal miniature head of him in *bas-relief*.

While in London, Mr. Livermore visited the great bibliographer, Thomas Frognall Dibdin, whose writings he had so thoroughly studied, and from whom he received a most hearty welcome. Dibdin was surprised to find that so many persons in this country were interested in his writings. Seizing Mr. Livermore's hands, he said, — "My dear sir, I see you are a genuine bibliomaniac. I thank you for coming to see me. I will point out to you such treasures in books as will delight your heart. You must go with me to Mr. Grenville's library; and I will give you an introduction to Oxford, Althorp, and other places, where you will see such books as you have never beheld before." *

His account of a visit to the poet Rogers, on the 25th of April, in company with Mr. Brown, we give entire: —

"Mr. Rogers lives at 22, St. James's Place. The entrance is in a very quiet and retired situation, but the windows in the parlors and drawing-room command a fine view of St. James's Park. We sent in our cards to Mr. Rogers, and were at once very cordially received. He made many inquiries about affairs in our country, and then invited us to his library and parlor, where we saw treasures in books and paint-

* Dibdin subsequently proposed to give a dinner-party to Mr. Livermore, where he could meet some distinguished bibliographers, and kindred spirits; but Mr. Livermore was obliged, by reason of pressing engagements, to excuse himself, and decline the honor.

ings which were of themselves worth a long journey to see. Whilst we were there, Mr. Wordsworth came in, and we were introduced to him. To see the author of 'The Excursion' and the author of 'The Pleasures of Memory' together, to take them both by the hand and listen to their conversation, was surely 'glory enough' for one day. The personal appearance of the two poets is quite unlike. Rogers is over eighty years old, yet not enfeebled by age. His manners are gentle and graceful, his countenance mild and delicate, and his voice sweet and remarkably pleasing. Wordsworth is eight or ten years younger. He is nearly a head taller than Rogers, and looks quite as old; what little hair remains on his head is quite gray. His manners are rough, his voice loud, his conversation very rapid and vehement; his whole soul seems to be thrown into the subject before him. When he is silent, he looks just like the engraved portrait in his Poems. I should have known him from the resemblance. But when he talks, the quiet and gentle look that the engraving indicates is gone. Perhaps he was unusually excited to-day; for he has come to London to be presented for the first time to Her Majesty, the Queen, as Poet-Laureate. He must appear in full court dress, and wear a sword, an unusual thing for him. Well, we were introduced by Mr. Rogers, to the Laureate, as from America. His first words were, 'Gentlemen, are you from Pennsylvania?' We knew why he asked: he is deeply interested in the credit of that State, being the holder of its bonds, on which the interest had not been promptly paid; and the odious and shameful doctrine of repudiation was probably associated in his mind with that State and its citizens. So I promptly answered, — 'No, from Boston in New England, where repudiation finds no favor with the people.' — 'Do you think Pennsylvania will pay her debts?' — 'Yes,' I replied, 'undoubtedly, principal and interest.' — 'So do I,' said Wordsworth: 'I have always thought so. I hold a large amount of State securities; and some of my friends, too, are large holders. I have always advised them not to sacrifice them; and I am glad to hear that we shall not be likely to lose.' I was glad enough to get through with this unpleasant matter of repudiation so well. He asked several questions about our country; inquired if I knew Professor Ticknor; when I left home; how long I proposed to stay; and what route I intended to take. But before I could answer half his questions, he said, 'I suppose you will do as your countrymen generally do, when they come here, — hurry through some of the most remarkable places in England by railway, and then be off to Italy to see paintings, and to Germany to see the great

metaphysicians: for my part, I think we have paintings and works of art in England, enough to interest one for years; and if you want to puzzle your brain with the metaphysics of the Germans, you can buy their works cheap enough.' When I told him that I was to be absent only three or four months from home, and that all but a fortnight of it would be passed in England, he said I had decided wisely. 'Come to Rydal Mount,' said he, 'and I will show you some beautiful scenery, well worth a little trouble to view.' Mr. Wordsworth left the house before we did. Mr. Rogers gave us so cordial and pressing an invitation to breakfast with him next Monday [the 28th of April], that we unhesitatingly accepted. . . .

"Breakfasted with Samuel Rogers the poet. This delightful old gentleman had invited Mr. Brown and me to come this morning, and he received us very cordially. It was a great privilege to sit beside him and listen to his anecdotes, and talk with him about the authors of England, with whom he had been so long on terms of the closest friendship and intimacy. Mr. Rogers has never been married. He does the honors of the table with ease and grace. There were numerous little choice dishes, which he gave an account of, as they were served up, giving us the history of each. He is constantly receiving presents from some of his numerous friends. This morning he had plovers' eggs served up on sea-weed, a present from the South of France; oranges from Malta, whose fragrance and beauty surpassed any thing of the kind I had ever seen; sweetmeats from Turkey, marmalade from Scotland, and Dutch bread. Mr. Rogers spoke very freely of his contemporaries. Coleridge was an intimate friend. He was a remarkable man in conversation, but had a bad temper. He did not live with his wife for many years before he died. He spoke warmly of Roscoe, with whom he was acquainted. Byron, Southey, and Campbell were frequent visitors at Rogers's: I wish I could remember a tithe of what he said about them. Rogers has always felt a deep interest in our country. His father was a warm friend of the Colonies at the time of the Revolution. When the news came to London of the Battle of Lexington, he sent for his tailor, and ordered a suit of black. On the tailor asking if he had lost any friend, he answered, — 'Yes, many dear American friends at the Battle of Lexington; and I shall wear black for them as long as I live.'

"Rogers said that in 1790 (I think it was, perhaps, 1791 or 2) he was one of a dinner-party of twelve at Paris, — nine of whom, within a year or two, died a violent death! He spoke of our American authors.

Washington Irving was of course at the head of our prose-writers, Bryant, at the head of the poets. Halleck was held high in his esteem. He said nothing of Dana the poet, but spoke in the highest terms of the work of R. H. Dana, Jr., 'Two Years before the Mast.' Mr. Rogers's house is a perfect museum of curiosities, yet all arranged in good taste. He has some exquisitely beautiful paintings, originals by the Old Masters. Besides some of the choice works of Sir Joshua Reynolds and Sir Thomas Lawrence, I saw the original bust of Pope, by Roubilliac, which Flaxman told Rogers his father had seen more than a century ago in the studio of the artist. Among the autographs were a letter of Dr. Franklin to Washington, and one from Washington to Alexander Hamilton. I saw the original drawings from which the engravings were taken in the 'Poems' and 'Italy.' In the library were some *book rarities*, — the first Aldus, the first edition of the 'Faerie Queene,' and the first edition of 'Paradise Lost'; but the chief ornament of the library was a little certificate neatly framed and hung upon the wall, which is nothing less than the original contract of Milton with his printer for the copyright of 'Paradise Lost.'

"Mr. Rogers inquired particularly what places we had visited in London, and gave us a memorandum of those worth seeing on account of their historical associations. We left him between eleven and twelve o'clock, having had one of the most interesting and delightful visits imaginable."

Mr. Livermore also visited Sir Thomas Grenville, and saw his magnificent library, which has since been transferred to the British Museum, and now forms one of the greatest attractions of that institution. In the British Museum he saw many Biblical rarities, which gave new inspiration to his interest in the history of the early publication of the Scriptures, and in general bibliography.

His visits to Oxford, to Cambridge, and to Althorp, where he saw the unrivalled collection of Earl Spencer, made more famous by the description in Dibdin's luxurious volumes, are all eloquently set forth in his journal.

Mr. Everett was at this time our minister in London; and he was very attentive in affording Mr. Livermore, by means

of letters and in other ways, every facility for accomplishing the objects of his tour.*

The gay city of Paris had fewer attractions for Mr. Livermore. He could not speak the language, nor could he become reconciled to the apparent desecration of the Sabbath, in the open shops and places of amusement. The brilliant spectacles which everywhere arrest the eye of the stranger in that city were not unobserved by him, and were eloquently described in his letters to his family; but everything was foreign to his principles, and to his tastes. England had the greater charm for him, and in after life he derived the highest satisfaction from the recollection of this visit to the mother country. He arrived home, on the 3d of July, after an absence of about three months. The last thing before embarking at Liverpool, he says, — "I went to the grave of Roscoe, and brought away a sprig of sweetbrier and some ivy leaves."

The previous year he had ordered from Liverpool two or three copies of the bust of Roscoe, in plaster. They could not then be obtained in this country. One of them was placed in the vestibule of his house, where it has since stood. One was presented to Harvard College, and it now stands in Gore Hall. When the committee of the Historical Society were fitting up a room to receive Mr. Dowse's library, and were placing busts of distinguished authors over the bookcases, Mr. Livermore requested that a bust of Roscoe might be of the number.

Mr. Livermore was deeply interested in the cause of learning; and the College in his neighborhood was as dear to him as though he had passed the four years as an undergraduate

* While in London, Mr. Livermore had the opportunity, through his friend Mr. Brown, of seeing the rare private collections of books and manuscripts, belonging to the eminent booksellers, Mr. Pickering and Mr. Murray; and he describes them at length.

Among the Americans whom he was constantly in the habit of meeting in London were the late Rev. Henry Colman and Dr. Samuel Parkman; also our present associate, Mr. Saltonstall.

within her walls, and could call her *Alma Mater*. He was now chosen by the Board of Overseers a member of the Library Committee, and continued to hold that position, by annual election, till his death; being most of the time the Secretary of the Committee. When in England, he had formed the acquaintance of Mr. Everett; and he regarded it as most fortunate for Harvard College when that eminent scholar was called to its Presidency. He was present at the inauguration services, which took place on the 30th of April, 1846, and under this date thus writes in his diary: —

"It was a great day for Cambridge, for Harvard University, for the cause of literature and learning in our country. The inauguration of Edward Everett as President of Harvard University was an event to fill every heart with joy; i.e., every heart that beats with the love of excellence and talent. There was a large audience at the church, every seat and stand was occupied, and four times as many would have been present, if the building could have held them. I was very fortunate in having a comfortable place during all the exercises at the church. As a member of the Examining Committee on the Library, the place appointed me in the procession was just after the Overseers; and I had a seat on the platform at the church, and a good place at the table for dinner. E. A. Crowninshield was my companion in the procession and at dinner; I found him by appointment at Owen's, before the procession was formed. We went to the Library at a little past ten o'clock, and at eleven the procession started. The services at the church were all of a high order. They were as follows — Introductory prayer, by Rev. James Walker, D. D.; address and delivery of the College charter, seal, and keys, by His Excellency, George N. Briggs; reply to the Governor, by the President elect; a Latin oration, by George M. Lane, of Cambridgeport; hymn, by Rev. Dr. Flint; and then an elegant, profound, and inimitable address by the President. I had often heard Mr. Everett before, but I believe that of to-day surpassed all his previous productions. Lane's performance was very creditable, and the Governor's marked by his usual good sense and propriety. There were many distinguished persons present; when Daniel Webster came forward on the platform, he was greeted by tremendous applause.* The services at church were

* The sudden appearance of Mr. Webster on the platform on this occasion (in the First Parish Church), approaching from behind, at the entrance through the pulpit, and

over a little before two o'clock; at half past two the procession reformed at Gore Hall, and proceeded to Harvard Hall for dinner. About five hundred and fifty sat down to the table. My neighbors were Crowninshield, Hillard, Bowen, Ellis, and Bowditch.

"Mr. Everett presided with great dignity and grace at the table. A blessing was asked by the Rev. Dr. Sharp, and thanks returned by the Rev. Dr. Woods, President of Bowdoin College. Speeches were made by President Everett, Ex-President Quincy, Daniel Webster, a humorous poem by Dr. O. W. Holmes, speeches by R. C. Winthrop, J. Quincy, Jr., President Hitchcock of Amherst, and Professor Silliman of Yale College, and George S. Hillard of Boston. At half past five o'clock the company left the hall. Mr. Everett invited all to visit him at his house."

The "Cambridge Chronicle," a weekly newspaper, was started in Cambridgeport in 1846; and Mr. Livermore, partly to assist the proprietor, and partly to aid in securing a good local paper, was a frequent contributor to its columns. He was a graceful and forcible writer; his opinions on whatever subject were never doubtfully expressed, and his historical investigations were thorough and exhaustive. Many of the

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the reception given to him, are thus described by our associate, Mr. Dana, in his "Address on the Life and Services of Edward Everett," delivered before the municipal authorities and citizens of Cambridge, Feb. 22, 1865.

"On this occasion, there was an occurrence which put suddenly to the severest test the equanimity and ready resources of Mr. Everett. The day and place were his, and his only. The crowded assembly waited for his word. He rose, and advanced to the front of the platform, and was received with gratifying applause. As he was about to begin, the applause received a sudden and marked acceleration, and rose higher and higher into a tumult of cheers. Mr. Everett felt that something more than his welcome had caused this; and turning, he saw, just at that opening behind your seat, Mr. Mayor, the majestic presence of Mr. Webster! The reception of Mr. Webster had additional force given to it from the fact that he had just returned from his conflict in Congress with Charles Jared Ingersoll, who had made an attack on his character, and that this his first appearance among us since was altogether unexpected. I had heard Mr. Everett's readiness of resource called in question. I looked — all must have looked — to see how he would meet this embarrassment. He turned again to the audience, cast his eyes slowly round the assembly, with a look of the utmost gratification seemed to gather their applause in his arms, and, turning about, to lay it ministerially at the feet of Mr. Webster, said to him, as I remember, 'I wish, Sir, that I could at once assert the authority that has just been conferred upon me, and, *auctoritate mihi commissâ* declare to the audience, *expectatur oratio in linguâ vernaculâ a Webster*. But I suppose, Sir, your convenience and the arrangements made by others, render it expedient that I should speak myself, — at least, at first.'"

book-notices which appeared in this journal for a number of years, were from his pen.

On Monday the 6th of December, 1847, the Hon. R. C. Winthrop took the chair as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, to which office he had just been elected; and in the course of his speech on that occasion, he made use of the following language: "May I not reasonably implore, with something more than common fervency, upon your labors and upon my own, the blessing of that Almighty Power, whose recorded attribute it is, that 'He maketh men to be of one mind in a house'?"* Supposing the concluding words to be Scriptural, many asked where they were to be found. The newspapers of New York and Boston inquired the Speaker's authority for the apt quotation, — some asserting that it was not in the Bible at all, and not a few learned divines being greatly puzzled. It was finally found to have been taken from the Psalter. In an article contributed to the "Cambridge Chronicle," of the 23d of December, Mr. Livermore explained that the passage in the Received Version (Psalm lxviii. 6), which reads "God setteth the solitary in families," is rendered in the Book of Common Prayer as given by Mr. Winthrop, "God maketh men to be of one mind in a house." It is from the Coverdale version of 1535, and appears there in Psalm lxvii. It is substantially according to the Cranmer Bible, to which the Psalter in the Prayer-Book generally conforms. Mr. Winthrop took the passage cited from the Prayer-Book, his eye happening to rest upon it the day before at church. In the article referred to, Mr. Livermore gave ten several versions of this passage.

A good illustration of the accuracy and minuteness of his knowledge of the various editions of the Scriptures is shown in some papers which he communicated to the "Boston Daily Advertiser," of July 12th, and Oct. 19th, 1849, in reply

* Addresses and Speeches, Boston, 1852, p. 610.

to Bishop Chase, of Illinois, who had brought the charge against Cromwell and the Puritans of having corrupted the sacred text. The allegation was, that Cromwell, having supreme power, had authorized the change of the word "we" — in Acts vi. 3, relating to the appointment of the seven deacons — to "ye," in order to favor the views of the Independents. The Bishop indulged in many other loose statements, by no means creditable either to his knowledge or to his taste. Among other things, he said that the "Cambridge Platform of 1648 was based upon this noted error." Mr. Livermore, in reply to the Bishop, in the papers referred to, showed, by respectable Episcopalian authority, that the edition of the Bible in which this error first appeared was printed in 1638, while Laud and Charles were ascendant in Church and State, — and that the next edition known to contain it was printed after the Restoration. It was simply a typographical error.

In the "Cambridge Chronicle" of the 5th of April, 1849, he commenced a series of eight articles on the New-England Primer, which were published over the signature of "The Antiquary." These papers were afterwards gathered into a thin volume (of which twelve copies only were issued as gifts to friends), with this title: "The Origin, History, and Character of the New-England Primer." They showed much research and curious learning, and attracted considerable attention. This Society has one of these twelve copies in its Library.

Among the minor questions discussed in these papers on the New-England Primer was one concerning the number of John Rogers's children. The equivocal statement of the Primer, that there were "nine small children and one at the breast," was disputed by Mr. Livermore, who contended that the number of the Martyr's children at the time of his death was *eleven* — citing Fox, the martyrologist, for his authority. His positions were assailed by some humorous communications in the "Boston Transcript," of July 16th and 24th; to which he replied.

While a member of the School Committee, Mr. Livermore contributed to the "Chronicle" an interesting article on the "Public Schools in Cambridge," going back to "Master Eaton's Flogging School," and citing the early colonial laws on the subject of schools in Massachusetts. This article was copied into the "Common-School Journal" for Aug. 1, 1848. The next year he prepared and printed "A Brief Account of the Dana-Hill Public Schools, Cambridge, 1849."

A collection of books which formerly belonged to Washington was offered for sale this year, and was bought by a number of gentlemen, and presented to the Boston Athenæum. Mr. Livermore was not only one of the subscribers to the fund for the purchase of these books, but he was one of a few persons who labored persistently for the securing of this treasure.* Subsequently, as a trustee of Mr. Dowse's estate, he communicated to the "Athenæum" the sum of one thousand dollars to defray the expense of a catalogue for this collection, and for increasing it. Everything relating to the history and character of Washington had an interest for Mr. Livermore. His noble library contains many memorials of the Father of his Country: and among the latest accessions to it, not many weeks before his decease, were several sermons preached on the death of Washington, of which he already possessed over one hundred.

In November, 1849, Mr. Livermore was elected a member of this Society; and a most valuable member did he prove, laboring for its welfare, in season and out of season, to the last. The first volume of "Proceedings" was issued under his superintending care, assisted by his friend and associate on the Committee of Publication, the Rev. Chandler Robbins, D. D. He continued a member of that Committee till his death; and was also for a number of years a most influential member of the Standing Committee. Other important ser-

* See Quincy's History of the Boston Athenæum, p. 187, for a description of these books.

vices which he rendered the Society will be noticed farther on. The American Antiquarian Society had, the month before, enrolled him among its members.

The "Christian Examiner" for November, this year, contained an article by Mr. Livermore, written at the request of Dr. Ellis, one of the editors of that journal, on the "Publication and Circulation of the Scriptures"; being a review of the Rev. W. P. Strickland's "History of the American Bible Society." This paper gave abundant evidence of his large information on the subject of the translation and circulation of the Bible; and contains a strong protest against "the absurd attempt" to adapt a version of the Scriptures to the capacities of the ignorant and almost barbarous races, which was made by the British and Foreign Bible Society when they printed a translation of the New Testament for the English negroes in Surinam: —

"These negroes," he says, "have no distinct language; but speak what is called 'talkee-talkee,' a strange lingo, compounded of original African words, of clipped and softened English words, and of violently treated Portuguese words. Their missionaries, the Moravians, instead of attempting to teach the negroes pure English or Dutch, recommended and urged the Bible Society to print an edition of the New Testament from a manuscript version which had long been in use at Surinam, in the abominable *patois* spoken by the slaves. Great benefit, it was predicted, would result to the missionaries and their converts from the undertaking, though the Society brought upon itself smart censures and much ridicule for the seemingly irreverent and ludicrous character of the volume which they published. It was very elegantly printed in octavo form, large type, in London, in 1829. Nearly all the copies were transmitted to the people for whose use they were prepared, and their arrival and distribution among the negroes caused great excitement. A very few copies were retained in England, as bibliographical and philological curiosities, and they have now become very scarce. One of them was recently offered to the public, in London, at the sale of the library of the late Duke of Sussex, and was sold for three pounds ten shillings. Its original cost could not have exceeded two or three shillings.

"We have a copy of this extraordinary volume of gibberish before us, and have looked it over for the purpose of finding a specimen which shall have in it nothing more offensive than what characterizes the whole of the work. The reader may form some just idea of what specimens might be selected, when he is told that the word *virgin* is rendered, in this version, "wan njoe wendje."

"We will take a few verses from the benedictions, Matt. v.: —

"'1. Ma teh Jesus si da piple, a go na wan bergi tappo, a go sidom, en dem discipel va hem kom klossibei na hem.
"'2. En a hoppo hem moeffe, a leri dem, a takki:
"'3. Boenne heddi va dem, dissi de poti na hatti: bikasi Gadokondre de vo dem.
"'4. Boenne heddi va dem, dissi de sari na hatti: bikasi hatti va dem sa koure.'

"Which we may venture to translate half-way back again into English, as follows: —

"'1. But when Jesus see the people, he go after one mountain-top, he go sit down, and them disciple for him come close by after him.
"'2. And he open him mouth, and learn them, and talk:
"'3. Good is it for them, these the pretty in heart, because God's country is for them.
"'4. Good is it for them, these the sorry in heart, because heart for them so cheery.'"

In a letter to John Allan, of New York, the distinguished antiquary, in December of this year, Mr. Livermore expressed his intention of printing, for private distribution, some "Reminiscences of a too short, but very pleasant acquaintance with Thomas Frognall Dibdin." This purpose, however, was never fulfilled.

In the "North-American Review," for July, 1850, Mr. Livermore contributed an article on Public Libraries, containing a large amount of curious and valuable information on the subject, both as regards this country and Europe. The scheme of international exchanges of books, inaugurated by M. Vattemare, was also discussed. Mr. Livermore had no confidence in M. Vattemare, and regarded his scheme as visionary. The great subject of a catalogue, which had just

before agitated the minds of the trustees of the British Museum, is dwelt upon; and the conflicting views drawn out by the examining committees of Parliament laid before the reader. Two of the books reviewed in this article were the "Report from the Select Committee on Public Libraries," and the "Report of the Commissioners appointed to inquire into the Constitution and Government of the British Museum."

A few months afterwards, a volume of Chambers's "Papers for the People" was issued in Edinburgh, containing a paper on "Public Libraries," which was made up from Mr. Livermore's article, a former article from the "North American," written by our Corresponding Member, Professor George Washington Greene, and a third paper from another source,— no acknowledgment whatever being made by the Edinburgh publishers.

This year Mr. Livermore was elected a trustee of the State Library; and while a member of this board, he had an opportunity of testing M. Vattemare's system of exchanges. His views as to the benefit accruing to the State therefrom were briefly expressed a few years later in the "History of the State Library," drawn up by the Librarian, and prefixed to the Catalogue published in 1858.

In 1850, Harvard College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts; and, the same year, he was elected a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

Mr. Livermore's library at this time had become a most valuable one; and his thorough habits of investigation had made him an authority on those subjects that specially engaged his thoughts. A paper on "Libraries in Boston and its Vicinity," in the "Bibliotheca Sacra," for January, 1850, contains a notice of Mr. Livermore's collection, and mentions many of its rare works. His library was then estimated to comprise "about three thousand volumes." It was largely increased during the fifteen years following.

In the early part of the year 1851, there appeared in the "New-York Evening Post," under the signature of "Friar Lupin," a series of articles commenting on the manner in which Mr. Sparks had edited the Writings of Washington. He was charged with not being faithful to the original text of Washington's letters. The charge was based on a comparison of some of the letters as printed by Mr. Sparks with the same letters as published by Mr. William B. Reed, of Philadelphia, from the originals in his possession. In the "Cambridge Chronicle," of the 20th of February of that year, Mr. Livermore came out with an article in defence of Mr. Sparks, quoting largely from his Preface to Washington's Writings, to show the plan on which he had prepared that work. The matter assumed graver proportions when the charges of the writer in the "New-York Evening Post" were adopted by Lord Mahon, who accused Mr. Sparks of "tampering with the truth of History."*

In the "Christian Examiner," for July, 1851, appeared an article from Mr. Livermore's pen, entitled "John Wycliffe and the first English Bible"; which no one can read without seeing how thoroughly Mr. Livermore's mind was possessed of all the curious learning appertaining to a full understanding of the subject.

Mr. Livermore was now becoming well known to our scholars, as a man of large acquirements in certain departments of learning; and his simple, frank, and winning manners caused his acquaintance to be sought by those who sympathized with his tastes, or who desired to profit by his intimate knowledge of books, or by his words of counsel. He numbered among his correspondents many eminent scholars and bibliographers, both in this country and in England. Among these may be mentioned Francis Fry, F. S. A., of Cotham, Bristol, the edi-

* An excellent treatment of this whole question, in defence of the editor of Washington's Writings, may be seen in the Memoir of Mr. Sparks by our associate, Dr. Ellis, in this volume, at pages 261–267.

tor of the elegant new edition, printed in 1862 in *fac-simile*, of Tyndale's New Testament of 1526, in the library of the Baptist College in Bristol. Mr. Fry was the editor of other book rarities, and usually had a few copies struck off on parchment or vellum for private distribution.

The late Rev. Christopher Anderson, D. D., of Edinburgh, author of the "Annals of the English Bible," London, 1845, was also a valued correspondent. Mr. Livermore formed his acquaintance while in London.

With the lamented Professor Jewett, formerly Librarian of the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, and more recently of the Boston Public Library, Mr. Livermore held the most agreeable relations. At the time of the controversy respecting the distribution of the income of the Smithsonian fund, Mr. Livermore entered warmly into the question, sympathizing entirely with Professor Jewett and his friends, and using all his influence to prevent what he considered a perversion of the trust.

Of the late George Washington Parke Custis, the adopted son of General Washington, who lived at "Arlington House," near Alexandria, Va., Mr. Livermore was a frequent correspondent, as he had been his guest.* Mr. Custis was a grandiloquent old man, but warm-hearted and hospitable to all who visited the "shades of Arlington," where were treasured with care many interesting memorials of his illustrious relative. His "Recollections and Private Memoirs of Washington" was a posthumous publication.

About this time he is found applying his accurate learning to the correction of what he regarded as some singular errors of Mr. Bancroft, relative to the publication of the Scriptures in this country before the American Revolution. His crit-

* Others, eminent book-collectors, who were also intelligent bibliographers, might be named, by whom the memory of Mr. Livermore will always be held dear. Mr. James Lenox, of New York; Mr. John Carter Brown and Mr. John Russell Bartlett, of Providence; Mr. George Brinley and Mr. J. Hammond Trumbull, of Hartford, — were among his valued friends and correspondents.

icism appeared in the "Boston Daily Advertiser," of the 18th of January, 1853, and relates to some statements in Chapter XII. Volume V. of the first edition of Bancroft's "History of the United States." In subsequent issues of that volume, large alterations in the foot note will be found at this place.

Mr. Livermore's health was almost always poor. He suffered greatly from headache all his life. "I wonder," he would say, "if blockheads ever ache." He remarks that he has seen somewhere that disease is a crime; and, if it is so, he must be the greatest of sinners. In 1850, he was so ill that he contemplated a long voyage. But he had an elastic spirit, and he commonly soon recovered from his attacks of illness, — at least, he was enabled to resume his usual avocations.

In the political affairs of his State and of the Nation he was always deeply interested. But he never sought, nor would he have accepted, office. He was decided in his views; his opinions were convictions; and he was sometimes a little impatient, and not always tolerant, of the opinions of those who differed from him. He did not reflect at the moment that the dissent of others from him was the exact measure of his dissent from others. But he was simple, conscientious, and constantly striving for the truth.

He was ever opposed to the system of slavery in this country, and particularly to its extension; but, up to this time, he was equally opposed to the spirit and policy of the Abolitionists. He felt that the vehement denunciations in which they indulged did more harm than good to the cause, and that a way would be opened by Providence for the peaceable settlement of this agitating question; and when Mr. Webster delivered his "Seventh of March Speech" in the Senate of the United States, which fell "like a wet sheet" upon New England, it met Mr. Livermore's approval. Subsequently, his views on the subject underwent a change. He

began to feel that the South, banded together as one man, were determined to force their peculiar institution upon the National domain; that, by stifling freedom of debate in the National Legislature,* by the repeal of ordinances enacted for the protection of freedom, by securing decisions in the Supreme Court hostile to liberty, and by other acts of a similar character, they were, with the aid of their Northern allies, rapidly extending their power in the government, and would soon bring the whole North under their corrupting influence. He then felt that the only hope for freedom was in the union of all manly hearts in an equally firm stand against slavery. As he felt, so he acted.

During a business tour which he made, in 1852, to the West, Mr. Livermore visited Blennerhassett's Island, in the Ohio River, concerning which, with other matters, he writes as follows: —

"Parkersburg, Va., May 21, 1852.

"My dear D——, — I wish you had been with me here in "Old Virginny" this pleasant day, and we would have rambled together over the beautiful island made forever memorable as the scene of Burr's and Blennerhassett's conspiracy, and by the eloquence of Wirt made classic as well as historic ground. It lies in the Ohio just below the river Kanawha, and between Parkersburg, Va., and Belpré, Ohio. I hired a boatman to take me in his skiff to the island, and can say from actual observation, that neither eloquence nor poetry can magnify the beauties of the situation beyond the reality. But few of the relics of improvements by its former owner now remain. The house was destroyed by fire between forty and fifty years ago. The garden is literally all grown over with thorns. I cut a stick for a cane on the

* The attack upon the Massachusetts Senator, in the Capitol at Washington, on the 22d of May, 1856, caused a deep feeling at the North among all political parties. Up to this time Mr. Livermore had called himself a "Webster Whig," and had uniformly voted against his relative, Mr. Burlingame, whenever he had been a candidate for any political office. But now he caused to be printed, at his own expense, the speech of Mr. Burlingame, made in the House of Representatives in Washington on the 21st of June, in "Defence of Massachusetts"; and, in some extra copies, inserted a "Prefatory Note," not signed, wherein he expresses his conviction that the time had arrived when "consistency to long cherished principles requires that the Conservative utter and defend the old doctrine of our illustrious statesman, — 'Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.'" Later events only intensified his convictions.

spot, and gathered a few shells and pebbles from the beach, to bring home as mementoes of the visit; and I left the place with sad reflections on the misfortune and folly of those who leave the luxury of a quiet home for the ambitious purpose of political power.

"It is now the third week of my absence from home, and another week will elapse before I can return. This has been the first day that has not been devoted almost exclusively to business. I was detained here, waiting for a steamboat to take me up the river, and improved the leisure by a visit to Blennerhassett's Island.

"I procured a copy of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' on my way, and have read it with great interest. I agree with you entirely that it is a work of great power, as well as of perfect fairness. It must do much good. The subject of slavery needs only to be presented in a spirit of candor and intelligence like this, to bring all who are truly desirous of promoting freedom to common ground. I wish I could circulate ten thousand copies of 'Uncle Tom,' in the Old Dominion, where chivalry and slavery have wrought such a potent spell, and almost reduced to beggary a people possessed of some of the greatest natural advantages of any in our fair country.

"Remember everything that occurs during my absence, and come and tell me all when I get home. You can, better than almost any one else, make up the loss which I always feel when deprived of the genial influences of Boston and Cambridge society.

"Yours faithfully,

"George Livermore."

Mr. Livermore was continually adding to his store of Biblical works, and often found occasion to make use of his curious and accurate learning in this department of bibliography. At the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Bible Society, in May, 1854, his Excellency, Governor Washburn, made an address, in the course of which he referred to the influence of the Bible upon Cromwell's soldiers. "In the army," he said, "every man had a Bible in his knapsack, and daily read it, and sang the praises of God; and the result was the like of what has been seen in the history of Puritanism." In an article in the "Cambridge Chronicle," of the 20th of June, Mr. Livermore quoted this passage from the Governor's speech, saying it was substantially correct, but

not literally so; that, if Cromwell's soldiers carried the Bible in their knapsacks, it was not the whole Bible; that "The Soldiers' Pocket Bible" consisted of appropriate selections from the Scriptures, printed in pamphlet form, and was generally buttoned between the coat and waistcoat, next to the heart, — "proving, perhaps, sometimes, a defence from the weapons of the enemies of their bodies, as well as from the Wicked One who sought to subdue their souls." He remarked, that but few copies of this curious Bible had been preserved, and that probably the copy he possessed was the only one in the country. He then gives a brief description of it. He had had it some years, having received it from his friend Mr. Crowninshield, to whom it had been sent from London. The book was afterwards reprinted by Mr. Livermore.

To afford some idea of the character of Mr. Livermore's library at this time, the following description of it is given. It was written by Mr. Livermore himself, by request.*

"Nearly a quarter part of the entire collection consists of Bibles and Biblical works, in various languages, versions and forms, from the ancient Hebrew manuscript roll, to the most modern translation of our own times.

"Among the manuscripts of interest is *The Pentateuch*, carefully written on thirty-six skins of parchment, and measuring fifty-eight feet in length, and one foot in breadth. This fine apograph is rolled upon a pair of handles, and enclosed in an embroidered silk cover. It was formerly used in a Jewish synagogue, and is a good specimen of an ancient volume, or rolled book.

"Two copies of the Bible entire, in the Latin Vulgate version, written by monks in the Middle Ages upon the most delicate vellum, are elaborately illuminated with beautiful initial letters, figures, and miniatures. They are of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Each was, perhaps, the work of a whole life.

"To these may be added an Evangelistarium, or selections from the Gospels, for the use of the church, written on parchment in the eighth

* It should be stated here, that Mr. Livermore was largely indebted to our countryman and Corresponding Member, Mr. Henry Stevens, of London, for assistance in procuring many of the valuable books contained in his library. His correspondence with this eminent bibliographer must have covered a period of nearly twenty years.

century, seven hundred years before the invention of printing, one of the oldest books, if not the oldest, in this country. It was obtained at the sale of the library of the Rev. Dr. Hawtrey, Provost of Eton.

"The Book of Job, a metrical version, by George Sandys, is supposed to be the original autograph copy of the author. It was formerly in the library of the late Duke of Sussex, and is particularly described by Dr. Pettigrew, in the 'Bibliotheca Sussexiana.'

"Next in order to the manuscripts is the BIBLIA PAUPERUM, a block book, or series of wood-cuts, representing Scripture subjects, with a few lines of text coarsely engraved upon the same page. The precise date is not known, but bibliographers are generally agreed in the opinion that it was printed as early as the year 1440.

"There is in this library a fragment of the celebrated MAZARIN BIBLE, *the first book ever printed.* Although the date does not appear, this work is well known to have been the first that issued from the press of Gutenberg, and to have been completed in the year 1455. Mr. L. has also the New Testament printed by Faust in 1462, being the first in which the date is given, and quite a number of Bibles published within the first half-century from the invention of printing. Servetus's Bible, published in Lyons, 1542, is a very rare work. The entire edition was ordered to be burnt, by the Roman Catholic authorities, on account of the supposed heretical sentiments contained in the preface and in some of the notes. The author, in 1553, shared the same fate with his Bible. He was burned alive for heresy; and as many of the Bibles as could then be found were used to kindle the wood at the time of his martyrdom. But very few copies escaped the flames, and there is probably no other in this country.

"Cromwell's Soldiers' Pocket Bible, of which only one other copy is known to be extant, is a great curiosity. It consists of selections from the Scriptures, published in 1643, for the use of the army during the civil wars. Here are copies of both editions of Eliot's Indian Bible,—the first containing the rare dedication to King Charles II., of which only twenty copies were printed; and a perfect copy of the Commentary of Nicholas de Lyra, beautifully printed in black letter, in 1483, being the first work of the kind ever published.

"Of English versions, Mr. L. has all the editions of Wyclif, several of Coverdale, Tyndale, Cranmer, the Genevan, the Bishops, the Douay, and the most remarkable editions of our present authorized version, from the first black-letter folio of 1611 to the recent revision of the American Bible Society.

"A splendid unique large-paper copy of Reeves's Bible, with several hundred original water-color illustrations, by Harris, of London, and a New Testament printed entirely in letters of gold, were added to the collection on account of their beauty as works of art.

"A special interest attaches to some copies of the Scriptures in Mr. Livermore's library, on account of their former ownership. The Venice edition of the Latin Vulgate, 1478, was once the property of the unfortunate Pope Pius VI., and has his arms stamped upon the covers. On the same shelf stands Melancthon's own copy of the Bible, with numerous notes on the margins in the handwriting of the Reformer. A copy of the Geneva version, presented by Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin to the late Rev. Dr. Homer, of Newton (from whose library it was purchased), was supposed by its former owners to have been the identical copy presented by the printer to Queen Elizabeth. The royal arms can still be traced on the covers. It was printed in 1576. But the Bible of Adam Winthrop, of Groton, England, the father of the first Governor of Massachusetts, is more highly prized by the present proprietor.

"A manuscript Koran, brought many years ago from Turkey, by Edward Wortley Montagu, and the Book of Mormon, with the autograph of Joseph Smith, possess an interest of a different kind.

"Mr. L. has, in a large portfolio, THE LORD'S PRAYER in more than eight hundred languages and dialects. This remarkable work was printed at the Imperial Office, in Vienna, and exhibited, as the contribution of the Emperor of Austria, at the World's Fair in London. Only a few copies were allowed to be sold.

"It may be mentioned that the only two New-England subscribers to Halliwell's magnificent edition of Shakespeare, now publishing in England, in twenty folio volumes, and limited to one hundred and fifty copies, are near neighbors to each other, — Mr. Hosmer and Mr. Livermore.

"Mr. Livermore has from his boyhood been much interested in the subject of general bibliography; and he has collected a considerable number of the best works on this subject, including typographical antiquities, and accounts of the most celebrated public and private libraries. In this department may be found nearly all the publications of Dibdin, several of them presentation copies from the author; works from the presses of Gutenberg, Faust, Caxton, Wynken de Worde, Pynson, Baskerville, Stephen Daye, the first American printer, Dr. Franklin, and nearly all the most famous printers in Europe and

America; also privately printed books from Strawberry Hill, Lee Priory, the Roxburghe and other clubs. We might mention many other curious and rare volumes. The larger part of this library consists of standard works of English literature, history, biography, poetry, &c., &c., — the best editions of the best authors." *

It may here be observed, that, after this brief and necessarily inadequate description of his library was written in 1855, Mr. Livermore made large additions to it, not only of Biblical works, but of works of history and of general bibliography. Everything which would illustrate the history of printing, from the earliest period, interested him. He refers, we have seen, to a fragment of the celebrated Mazarin Bible which his library contained, — "the first book ever printed" on movable types. Three years before his death, he purchased a beautiful copy of the original edition of Coverdale's Bible, printed in 1535, the first edition of the entire Bible in English. It cost him one hundred and forty pounds.

A worthy "Tribute to the Memory of James Johnson," "a merchant of the old school," was contributed by Mr. Livermore to the "Boston Daily Advertiser," of May 4th, 1855. A few copies of the "Tribute" were subsequently reprinted by the friends of the deceased, for private distribution.

This year Mr. Livermore was elected a member of the "American Academy of Arts and Sciences," and he was treasurer of that institution at the time of his death.

Many of Mr. Livermore's associates will recall with pleasure the meeting of the Historical Society at his house on the evening of the 26th of June, 1856. It was in the season of strawberries; and the prolific gardens of his neighbor, Mr. Hovey, the well-known horticulturist, furnished for the occasion a most abundant supply of his choicest varieties of that delicate fruit. The luscious "seedling" which bears his name, and other rival descriptions of Cambridge growth, looked as if they had each been prepared for the eye of the

* See "A Glance at Private Libraries," by Luther Farnham, Boston, 1855.

expert, as candidates for a prize. It was, indeed, a "Strawberry Festival." *

Mr. Livermore's love of flowers did not desert him at this time; and the charming floral adornments which here met the eye were an eloquent commentary on his exquisite taste, which was not confined to books alone.

Mr. Savage, then late President of the Society, and now its senior member, was not able to be present; but, as a delicate compliment to his venerated friend, Mr. Livermore caused the portrait of him, then recently painted by Wight for the Society's cabinet, to be brought to his house and hung on the wall of the room in which the business meeting was held. This served as a pleasant reminder of one whose membership dates back to the year 1813, and who had for fourteen years so faithfully served the Society as its chief officer.

As a part of the business of this meeting, "Mr. Livermore produced a trunk containing a large collection of manuscripts formerly belonging to the Hon. Judge Davis, and more recently to Isaac P. Davis, Esq., late associates of the Society; which, in compliance with the expressed wish of the latter, had been committed to Mr. Livermore's charge by Mrs. Davis and the Hon. William Sturgis, executor, to be examined and assorted, previously to their being deposited in the library of the Society. Mr. Livermore stated that he had partially examined the papers, and found some of them to be of great value." † They were referred to a committee, of which he was chairman, to be arranged for the library according to the views of the donor. The volume of "Davis Papers" now in the cabinet, comprises this collection.

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* For the purpose of illustrating Mr. Livermore's thoughtful care in little things, which, indeed, make up the staple of every man's life, we will here recall the circumstance, that there was enclosed in the notice of this meeting, to each member, a beautifully printed card, which served not only as a "free pass" over the railway, from "Bowdoin Square" to his house on "Dana Hill," but conveyed the information that the 'Business Meeting" would be held "at half-past seven o'clock. Strawberries at nine o'clock. Cars return at ten o'clock."

† See Proceedings Massachusetts Historical Society for June, 1856, pp. 96, 97.

This meeting at Mr. Livermore's, the first of a few rural gatherings of the members as a society, is one of the pleasant things to recall. The recollection of it revives the picture of one in whom "the graces of purity, sweetness, refinement, gentleness, and disinterestedness," to use the felicitous language of Mr. Hillard respecting him, were marvellously combined, — in the midst of his books and of his flowers, extending his warm and unstinted hospitality to his associates around him. The silver cord by which he was bound to us is loosed, but the sweet memories of the occasion will ever remain;

"The scent of the roses will hang round it still."

Thomas Dowse, the leather-dresser of Cambridgeport, the collector of the magnificent Library, estimated to have cost over forty thousand dollars, was a near neighbor and friend of Mr. Livermore. He was a bachelor, of a quiet, retiring disposition, somewhat odd withal, and he admitted few to his intimacy. Mr. Livermore's warm-hearted disinterestedness won his confidence, and his love and knowledge of books made him a most desirable companion. As old age grew upon Mr. Dowse, and his infirmities increased, Mr. Livermore made it a point to visit him almost daily. The morning after the meeting of the Historical Society at his house, Mr. Livermore called on Mr Dowse, taking with him a dish of strawberries. The conversation naturally turned on the subject of the meeting the evening before, and Mr. Dowse was much interested in the account he received of it. This led him to make further inquiries respecting the Society, with many of whose members he was already well acquainted. Soon afterwards Mr. Dowse asked Mr. Livermore if he thought the Society would accept of his library. He received encouragement that they would. He then desired to see a plan of their building, and the rooms which they occupied; and when he had fully decided to offer his library to the accept-

ance of the Society, Mr. Livermore conferred with the President, and the matter was soon consummated. The account of the Special Meeting at which the announcement of the gift was made, and of that which was held on the transfer of the books to the rooms of the Society, after the decease of Mr. Dowse, the following year, are related in the "Proceedings" for August, 1856, and April, 1857.*

Mr. Livermore and Mr. Eben. Dale were appointed executors and trustees under Mr. Dowse's will. By this instrument a considerable sum was left to the trustees, to dispose of according to their judgment, under certain general instructions. The charge for fitting up the room now known as "The Dowse Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society," amounting to about three thousand dollars, was defrayed by the trustees, who in addition gave the Society ten thousand dollars as a fund, the income of which was to be devoted to the care and administration of the library.

The trustees contributed also a fund of ten thousand dollars for the establishment, in Cambridge, of a "Dowse Institute,"

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* Mr. Dowse had had many plans for the disposition of his library, but he could decide on nothing. When Mr. Quincy was President of the College, a proposal was made by him to Mr. Dowse, that, if he would present his library to that institution, a fire-proof building should be constructed to receive it, and other provisions made for its safe-keeping for ever; but nothing came of it. In September, 1853, early in the Presidency of Dr. Walker, Mr. Dowse's health seemed to be failing, and he felt anxious about his library, being at a loss what disposition to make of it, when Mr. Livermore, on his behalf, informally conferred with Dr. Walker as to the probability of the College consenting to receive it, if it should be offered, on the terms intimated: namely, that a separate fire-proof building should be erected for it, that none of the volumes should be taken from it, &c. Dr. Walker, of course, had no authority, of himself, to accept or to decline such an offer, had it been made; and he had no wish to divert such a gift from the College: but he saw that the terms suggested would involve a serious expense to the Corporation, without an equivalent. He, however, assured Mr. Livermore, that, without doubt, if the library should be presented to the College, arrangements would be made to give it a place by itself in Gore Hall.

There seemed at one time to be danger that this collection of books would come to the hammer. Mr. Dowse once offered to give it to Mr. Livermore, who, of course, declined it. Mr. Dowse finally proposed, as stated in the text, to place his library in the custody of the Society of which his friend, Mr. Livermore, was a prominent member. This suggestion was warmly seconded by Mr. Livermore, and to him is the Historical Society largely indebted for the final disposition made of this noble library.

for public lectures, &c. This sum was paid over to the city of Cambridge, which, in return, agreed to pay annually, forever, to the trustees of the Institute, six hundred dollars.

Mr. Dowse's fine collection of paintings in water-colors was given to the Boston Athenæum, of which institution Mr. Livermore was a trustee.

It will not require a reference to the records of the Society, to recall a similar meeting of the members to that just described, which, two years after, was held, by invitation of Mr. Longfellow, at his house in Cambridge, — the house which was for nine months the residence and headquarters of Washington. The meeting was summoned in the afternoon of the 17th of June, the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill. Mr. Livermore was chairman of the Standing Committee this year, and he used every means, in co-operation with the other officers of the Society, to make this meeting worthy of the occasion. On the notices issued to the members he caused to be printed a wood-cut impression of the ancient mansion where the meeting was to be held. The following characteristic note was received from him a few days before the meeting: —

"Wednesday Morning, June 9th.

"Dear D———, — Thinking that you might like to preserve a *tinted* copy of the notice of our grand meeting to be held on the 17th, I send you one of each shade. The regular Society's notice is printed on white paper, but half a dozen or more of a 'fancy' character were struck off to be sent to the 'Saints.' . . . The meeting is likely to be the most interesting one ever held by the Society.

"Yours ever affectionately."

Mr. Livermore's fondest expectations concerning the meeting at Mr. Longfellow's were fully realized. There were present, among others, Mr. Everett, Judge Shaw, Mr. Adams, Mr. Willard, Mr. Richard Frothingham, Mr. Paige, and Dr. Ellis, who severally addressed the meeting. The President, Mr. Winthrop, called the meeting to order at half-past five

o'clock, and in his opening remarks alluded to the occasion and the place, and also to the circumstances under which General Washington assumed the command of the American army in 1775. "None could have entered this venerable mansion," he said, "without recalling the words which the accomplished host once addressed to a child, but which are no less adapted to stir the feelings of full-grown men: —

> "'Once, ah! once, within these walls,
> One whom memory oft recalls,
> The Father of his Country, dwelt;
> And yonder meadows, broad and damp,
> The fires of the besieging camp
> Encircled with a burning belt.
> Up and down these echoing stairs,
> Heavy with the weight of cares,
> Sounded his majestic tread:
> Yes, within this very room
> Sat he in those hours of gloom,
> Weary both in heart and head.'"

All his remarks were excellent, as were those of the members who followed him. During the evening Mr. Livermore exhibited several most interesting relics associated with Washington and his times; and Mr. Everett, who at Mr. Livermore's request had drawn up a statement relative to the preparation and delivery of his celebrated discourse "On the Character of Washington," submitted that statement to the meeting. After the business was over, the invitation of the host to partake of strawberries and cream was not declined; and every one present felt that he had good reason to remember "the 17th of June," 1858.

In 1859 Mr. Livermore was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the "American Unitarian Association," and he almost invariably attended its monthly meetings. In 1864 he was elected Vice-President of the Association, a position which he held at his death. Besides giving his active personal services, he was a liberal contributor to its funds.

On the 30th of April, 1860, we find him collecting the subscriptions, which he had before solicited, for the "Quincy statue," as the treasurer wishes to remit the first instalment, of two thousand dollars, by the next Wednesday's steamer. This refers to the statue of President Quincy by Story, yet in the studio of the artist in Rome.

The copy of the "Soldiers' Pocket Bible" belonging to Mr. Livermore, has been already referred to. It was very rare; only one other copy was known to exist, and that was in the British Museum. He had for some time thought of reprinting it for distribution among his friends, — "for the saints," as he used playfully to style those for whom he designed the few copies of any work privately got up by him. In 1861, Mr. Houghton, of the Riverside Press, printed for him one hundred copies, in *fac-simile*. He at the same time had ten copies printed on parchment, three on vellum, and two on India paper.* It came from the press about the 1st of June. The American Tract Society, in both its branches, thinking it would serve a useful purpose as a religious manual for the soldiers in our army, reprinted it in large numbers as a tract. How extensively it was circulated among the soldiers, and how much good it accomplished, we have no means of knowing. The book, in the original, is a 12mo, or 16mo, of 16 pages. It is made up of passages from the Bible, or rather from the Old Testament, — there being but two citations from the New Testament. Those passages in which God's chosen people are referred to as fighting God's enemies are introduced. Cromwell's soldiers no doubt felt, as did the Jews, that they were the Lord's "elect"; and this little volume may have served to nerve them to the conflict. It may well be doubted if such a tract would better the condition of our soldiers at this day, either morally or mentally; or improve them as fighting men. Its chief value now must be historical.

* Through Mr. Livermore the attention of Mr. Francis Fry had been called to the Soldiers' Pocket Bible," and he had an edition in *fac-simile* printed in England, in

In 1862 a reprint of the "Bay Psalm Book," consisting of fifty copies, on laid paper, was executed by Mr. Houghton, for Charles B. Richardson, a bookseller in New York. Mr. Livermore's name appears on the list of subscribers for one of the fifty copies. But he secured, also, one copy to be struck off on parchment, — the only one printed. There were at the same time five copies printed on India paper, of which Mr. Livermore's library contains one.

The proof-sheets of this reprint of the "Bay Psalm Book" were revised and corrected by our associate, Mayor Shurtleff, who, in his introduction to the volume, says, — "In the reproduction of this quaint volume, every word, every letter, and indeed every point, has been sedulously collated with a perfect impression of the original work struck at Cambridge in the year 1640."

At the annual meeting of the American Antiquarian Society, at Worcester, in October, 1864, Mr. Livermore read the report of the Council. The principal theme dwelt upon in this paper was suggested by the recent decease of Mr. Quincy. He gave an analysis of Mr. Quincy's writings, and endeavored to show that each of his works had been the product of his personal experience in the active duties in which he had been engaged through life. It was an admirably conceived and an admirably written paper. A few copies of the remarks commemorative of Mr. Quincy were struck off separately from the pamphlet of "Proceedings," for private distribution.

And here we are reminded that, from the time Mr. Livermore was elected a member of our sister society at Worcester, he rarely failed to attend its meetings, whether held in that city or in Boston. Nothing but the most imperative engagements ever kept him away from the annual meetings, which are always held in Worcester. The ride through that beau-

1862, from the only other original copy known, that in the British Museum. He also, the same year, reproduced in *fac-simile* an edition of "The Christian Soldier's Penny Bible," from a copy of the original edition in his possession, dated London, 1693, — a little manual of sixteen pages.

tiful part of the State, with his associates, the Boston members, in that season of the year when the foliage puts on its brilliant and varied hue, could not fail to have an attraction for him in itself. Then the warm greeting he was sure to receive at "Antiquarian Hall," from the grave and reverend seigniors there assembled, including always Governor Lincoln and Judge Barton, — "not dead, but gone before"; then the mental repast served up to the meeting in the Report of the Council, of which the Librarian's Report — invariably so rich in curious learning, and keen and wholesome criticism — always forms a part; and, finally, the elegant hospitality of the President of the Society: to share all this, was a rare treat to our friend; and the 21st of October was a red-letter day in Mr. Livermore's calendar.

In November, 1864, Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes delivered a lecture before the "Dowse Institute" in Cambridge, entitled "New England's Master-Key"; in the course of which he endeavored to show what had been accomplished by those who had devoted their literary labors to one special object; and he instanced among others, as illustrating the truth of his remark, George Livermore.

Reference was made to Mr. Livermore's copartnership with his brother Isaac, in 1838. The older brother retired from the business in 1846; and Mr. Livermore, for the five following years, continued on in company with a nephew. After remaining alone about a year, he was, in 1852, invited to a partnership in the Boston branch of the extensive wool business of Aaron Erickson, of Rochester, N. Y., which subsisted until 1857, when the firm of "Livermore & Morse" was formed, which was dissolved only by his death.

Mr. Livermore took pride in his calling as a merchant, and for many years devoted his best energies during the hours of business to its demands. He was conservative and cautious in his business views, and was uneasy under large pecuniary responsibilities; preferring small gains with corresponding

safety to the pursuit of larger acquisitions with the usual attendant risks. He had the satisfaction through life of always meeting his engagements.

The financial storm which swept over the country in the autumn of 1857, prostrating almost everything before it, was of fearful portent to our friend. He felt that all he had was gone, and that the only thing left was to maintain his mercantile honor and credit, which was done. The speedy recurrence, three years later, of a similar crisis, occasioned by the breaking out of the Rebellion, was another trial, which taxed the highest energies of every merchant who had acceptances to meet, or notes to pay. But when the government began to call out the troops, which had to be clothed and fed and provided with all the equipments of war, such a demand was made upon the raw material and industry of the country, that, with the added influence of the suspension of specie payments, and consequent appreciation of merchandise, all embarrassments were removed, and, in the next few years, large fortunes were realized by many. Mr. Livermore shared in this success; and, during the war, acquired an amount of property such as previously he had been a stranger to.

On the actual breaking out of the Rebellion, Mr. Livermore threw himself into the cause of the Union with all his characteristic energy and zeal. With him there was no temporizing, no "good Lord" and "good Devil." His trumpet gave no uncertain sound. He attended recruiting-meetings, joined a "Home Guard," and drilled and marched for miles, at times, with a musket on his shoulder, which, with his frail and delicate frame, was almost like bearing his cross. As his means enabled him, he gave freely; and, throughout the war, he poured out his money like water for the cause.*

* In the second year of the war, when it was proposed to raise a fund for the relief of the families of the soldiers of Cambridge, the following letter from Mr. Livermore

As he could not go to the field, he considered himself bound to do in other ways all that lay in his power to maintain the integrity of the Union. One of his sons was in the army, but that did not absolve him from duty. During the twelve months which preceded his death he spent for public objects and for private charities nearly twenty-five thousand dollars.

Not content with all this, when the discussion arose whether the government should accept colored troops, and there were strong doubts even among the most loyal as to its expediency, he prepared with great labor, and published at great expense, a work of over two hundred pages, which he entitled "An Historical Research respecting the Opinions of the Founders of the Republic, on Negroes as Slaves, as Citizens, and as Soldiers." The substance of this work was read before this Society at a stated meeting, 14th August, 1862; and the President of the Society, Mr. Winthrop, has since said of it, that it would alone have been "enough to secure for him a reputation which any of us might envy." His purpose was to show

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was read to a meeting of citizens held for the consideration of this subject at the City Hall: —

"Dana Hill, Aug. 9, 1862.

"Hon. J. M. S. Williams.

"My dear Sir, — I cannot be present with you, in person, this evening, as I had intended, but you need not be told that my heart is with you. The more I reflect on the subject of the proposed fund of twenty-five thousand dollars for the relief of the families of the soldiers, by the way of insurance on their lives, and in the other manner suggested in the circular of the Committee, the more I am convinced of the merit and excellence of the plan; and I ask you to alter my subscription from five hundred dollars to one thousand dollars. To save the Committee the trouble of collecting this amount, I now enclose a United-States Treasury-note for the sum, with interest at seven and three-tenths per cent. I have been much gratified at the readiness of our citizens to respond to this call. The whole sum of twenty-five thousand dollars will be made up, I am sure, in a few days, if it is not secured at the meeting this evening. When this subscription is full, we must all be ready for something else. Until the war is over, we must dedicate our time, our money, our lives, — and, what may be dearer to us than any of these, our brothers and sons, — to the service of our country. When we are thoroughly aroused to the value of the liberty we are defending, we shall feel that no sacrifice is too great for us to make in its behalf. And when we rise to this point of patriotism, God will surely crown our cause with complete success.

"I am, very truly, yours,

"George Livermore."

that the patriots of the Revolution regarded the negro as a man, capable of bearing arms, and of being a citizen; and he saw no reason why he should not be allowed to do his part, side by side with his white brother, in upholding the flag of his country.

"Among the agencies which swayed the public mind at that time," says a distinguished civilian, "this publication cannot be forgotten." Attorney-General Bates acknowledged his obligation to it in making up his opinions on the status of the negro; and "it is within my own knowledge," says Senator Sumner, "that it interested President Lincoln much. The President expressed a desire to consult it while he was preparing the final Proclamation of Emancipation;* and, as his own copy was mislaid, he requested me to send him mine, which I did." †

This work was issued in five different editions, in a most luxurious style; fifty copies of two of the editions having been printed on "large paper." The most of the copies were distributed gratuitously. The whole cost of this work, some three or four thousand dollars, was borne by Mr. Livermore himself. A pamphlet of eight pages of extracts from it was published soon after, in Philadelphia, by Henry C. Baird, entitled "George Washington and General Jackson on Negro Soldiers," of which over one hundred thousand copies were printed. ‡

While declining all official positions, Mr. Livermore was in frequent correspondence with leading politicians and statesmen, and with some of them maintained the most intimate and confidential relations.

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* The pen with which Mr. Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation was presented to Mr. Livermore by the President, and was treasured among his cherished memorials.

† See notice of "The Death of George Livermore," in the "Boston Daily Advertiser," Sept. 2, 1865.

‡ In 1864, there was issued from the "Riverside Press" of Mr. Houghton the first volume of a new edition of "The Federalist," edited by Mr. Henry B. Dawson, of Morrisania, N. Y., and dedicated to Mr. Livermore in warm and flattering terms.

The following extract of a letter from Mr. Livermore, dated March 30th, 1863, written in reply to one addressed to him, containing a memorial of a young gentleman of rare culture and social position, who enlisted in the army as a common soldier, and lost his life in the service, shows the same devotion to the cause of his country, — a devotion which continued to the last.

"I never had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mr. H———;* but I knew of his talents, his genius, his patriotism, and his general worth. I honor his memory more than any poor words at my command can express. I should value more the honorable record of such a life, brief though it might be, than the showier demonstrations which begin and end with popular applause. This wicked war, conceived in sin and slavery, and waged for the destruction of national liberty, — how costly are the sacrifices which it demands! You and I, my dear friend, will yet have to make still greater offerings for our country, before the strife is ended. But nothing we have or are can be too much to bestow, be it all our means, our friends, our children, and our own lives, if we can redeem our nation, and establish it on the sure foundation of Justice and Liberty. The nation *will be saved*, and will rise from its degradation and sorrow. But we must suffer more before the glorious day shall dawn."

Mr. Livermore's constitution, as has been already stated, was feeble, and his health was poor through life. But he had a strong will, which carried him through difficulties from which many of more robust constitutions would have shrunk. During the winter of 1864–65, his health seemed feebler than usual. The issues of the war, now rapidly culminating, affected him intensely; and as the spring opened, bringing with it the joyful events of the downfall of Richmond and the capture of Lee, so soon followed by the terrible tragedy of the death of President Lincoln, his delicate organization received a shock almost beyond what it could bear.

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* This was Francis Custis Hopkinson, of the Class of 1859 of Harvard College. He was a member of the Forty-fourth Massachusetts Infantry. See "Harvard Memorial Biographies," ii. 21.

A few days after the assassination at Washington, he attended a meeting of the Historical Society, and in some remarks relative to that event enjoined upon the members the duty of self-consecration, anew, to the service of their country. He was deeply affected, and spoke with intense feeling.

At the following meeting, in May, he was likewise present. In the latter part of that month he went to West Point on a brief visit to his son. On Wednesday, the 24th, having returned, he writes from his residence on Dana Hill, — "I came home from West Point on Monday with a lame leg, which is likely to keep me a prisoner in my house for some time; otherwise, I should call and see you." *

He seemed to be getting better during the few weeks following, and received the visits of some of his friends. He was much interested in the Eulogy on President Lincoln, pronounced by his friend, Mr. Sumner, on the 1st of June, at the Music Hall, a copy of which in print was furnished him on the day of its delivery, — the Eulogy having been delivered by Mr. Sumner from the printed sheets. But towards the last of June, he had a relapse from which he never recovered. On the 28th of July he writes, — "I feel more comfortable this morning than I have done since my last relapse, four weeks ago; and although confined to my bed, and only allowed to read a little each day, and forbidden to see company, I manage to maintain my faith and patience thus far. The doctor does not dream that I *write*. I would not ask his permission, for fear of being denied. I have a curious and convenient table, which projects over my bed; and I can, whilst reclining, use my pen a few moments each day very comfortably. I thank you for your kind note of the 15th. It is nearly ten weeks, now, since I have been shut out from the active duties of life, and a word from a friend is cheering. Although the

* His infirmity proved to be *phlebitis*, or inflammation of the veins.

doctors say I must not see company, there is hardly a day when I should not see you for a few moments if you called, and I should be blest by the sight." During a brief interview with him, three days after this, though pale and much emaciated, he seemed in most excellent spirits. He was full of hope and of gratitude. He probably then had not given up all thoughts of recovery, and of being restored to his friends and the active duties of life. But it was otherwise ordered. Three days before his death he was attacked with paralysis, and he died on the 30th of August.

In this notice of Mr. Livermore, the purpose has not been to pronounce a eulogy upon him, but to state some of the principal facts of his life, agreeably to the custom followed by the Historical Society in the Memoirs of its deceased members. The estimation in which Mr. Livermore was held in the community, — and, indeed, by all who knew him, — and the great loss sustained in his death, were attempted to be expressed, at the first meeting of the Society following that event, in remarks by the President and some of the associate members, which were published in the "Proceedings." * Other societies and associations with which he was connected bore a united and willing testimony to his great worth. Reference may also be made to an admirable discourse, entitled "The Consecrated Life," preached to the Cambridgeport Parish, on the 3d of September, 1865, by the pastor, the Rev. Henry C. Badger; likewise to the eloquent and appreciative sermon, entitled "The Public Duty of a Private Citizen," preached in the South Congregational Church, Boston, on the same Sunday, by our associate, the Rev. Edward E. Hale. An interesting article in the "Atlantic Monthly" for November, 1865, entitled "The Visible

* A beautiful tribute to the moral and religious traits of Mr. Livermore's character was at this time paid by his friend, our associate, Mr. Folsom, — now himself prostrated on a bed of sickness, — in the form of a letter to Admiral Farragut, which was read at the meeting, and printed in the "Proceedings."

and Invisible in Libraries," written by Mrs. Waterston, contains the following passage in reference to our friend and to his exquisite library: —

"The silent library of George Livermore speaks eloquently of him. That collection, gathered with a love which increased as years advanced, includes ancient copies of the Bible of rarest value. His life was a book, written over with good deeds and pure thoughts, illuminated by holy aspirations. That volume is closed, but the spirit which rendered it precious is not withdrawn: living in many hearts, it will continue to be a cherished presence in the world, the home, and the library." *

Nothing could be added, were it desired, to these tributes to our loved and lamented associate.

Mr. Livermore left three sons, his only children: the eldest, Frank, now a physician, settled in Paris in the practice of his profession; the second, William Roscoe, a graduate of West Point, in high standing, connected with the engineer department of the United-States Army; the third, Charles Cunningham, residing with his mother in Cambridge.

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* Mr. Livermore's residence was on the corner of Dana and Main Streets, on "Dana Hill," just within the limits of "Old Cambridge," where he lived for nearly twenty-five years. A few years before his death he built an addition to his house, of a library-room, for the better accommodation of his books. It is a charming apartment, and everything remains just as he left it. By his will, his library was bequeathed to his wife.